

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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New Mexico State Office 1474 Rodeo Road P.O. Box 27115 Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502-0115 www.nm.blm.gov

In Reply Refer To: 9015 www.nm.oim.gov

August 17, 2012

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management has completed a preliminary Environmental Assessment (EA) which analyzes the potential environmental impacts associated with implementing various treatment methods to control or eradicate non-native, noxious and invasive plants within the Las Cruces District boundary. The Proposed Action in the EA discusses implementation of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to controlling or eradicating New Mexico State listed noxious and invasive plant species on public lands within the Las Cruces District which encompasses Otero, Dona Ana, Sierra, Luna, Grant, and Hidalgo counties. IPM involves using a combination of cultural, mechanical, manual, and herbicidal treatment methods to treat the invasive plants.

The preliminary EA (DOI-BLM-NM-L000-2011-0169-EA) has been prepared and is available for public review and comment at the Las Cruces District Office website address at: http://www.blm.gov/nm/st/en/fo/Las_Cruces_District_Office.2.html.

Public comments will be considered in the preparation of the final EA, FONSI, and Decision Record. Comments on this proposal must be received by September 18, 2012. Comments may be submitted using any of the following methods:

<u>Email</u> – <u>BLM_NM_LCDO_Comments@blm.gov</u>; Please include "Las Cruces Noxious Weed EA" in the subject line of your message.

<u>Mail</u> – NOE GONZALEZ, BLM Las Cruces District Office, 1800 Marquess St., Las Cruces, NM 88005

We look forward to your comments. If you need additional information, or if you have questions concerning the proposal, please contact Noe Gonzalez at the address above or call at (575) 525-4488.

Sincerely,

/s/ William Childress

William Childress District Manager